

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A cementitious composition comprising
 - i) a cationically-modified or a secondary or tertiary amino-modified cellulose ether or
 - ii) a cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is either from 2.2 to 3.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 % or the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is less than 2.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 12%.
2. (Original) A cementitious composition comprising
 - i) a cationically-modified or a secondary or tertiary amino-modified cellulose ether or
 - ii) a cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the hydroxyethoxyl substituent has been introduced into the cellulose material in two or more stages.
3. (Currently amended) The cementitious composition of Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~ wherein the cellulose ether ~~is ii) i)~~ is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethyl celluloses, C₁-C₄-alkyl hydroxyethyl celluloses, hydroxy-C₃₋₄-alkyl hydroxyethyl celluloses, and carboxy-C₁-C₄-alkyl hydroxyethyl celluloses.
4. (Currently amended) The cementitious composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1 wherein the cellulose ether comprises a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is up to 3.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5%.

5. (Currently amended) The cementitious composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1 wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ of the cellulose ether ii) is either from 2.2 to 2.6 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 % or the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is from 1.0 to 2.0 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 11.5%.

6. (Currently amended) The cementitious composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1 wherein the cellulose ether has a viscosity of from 3000 to 7500 mPa's, measured as a 1-wt.% aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield viscometer as described in ASTM D-2364.

7. (Currently amended) The cementitious composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1 wherein the cellulose ether has a viscosity of from 1 to 5000 mPa's, measured as a 2-wt.% aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield viscometer as described in ASTM D-2364.

8. (Currently amended) The cementitious composition of ~~any one of Claims 1 to 7~~ Claim 1 wherein the cellulose ether i) is a cationically-modified or a secondary or tertiary amino-modified hydroxyethyl cellulose ~~or the cellulose ether ii) is a hydroxyethyl cellulose.~~

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) A cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein

the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is either from 2.2 to 3.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 % or the

ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is less than 2.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 12% and

the viscosity of the cellulose ether is from 3,000 to 10,000 mPa's, measured as a 1 weight % aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield LVT viscometer as described in ASTM method D-2364.

11. (Original) The cellulose ether of Claim 10 wherein the viscosity of the cellulose ether is from 3,000 to 7,500 mPa's.

12. (Original) A cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein

the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is either from 2.2 to 3.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 % or the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is less than 2.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 12% and

the viscosity of the cellulose ether is from 1 to 5000 mPa's, measured as a 2 weight % aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield LVT viscometer as described in ASTM method D-2364.

13. (Currently amended) The cellulose ether of Claim ~~11~~ 12 wherein the viscosity of the cellulose ether is from 1 to 1000 mPa's.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) The cellulose ether of ~~any one of Claims 10 to 14~~ Claim 10 wherein the cellulose ether comprises a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is up to 3.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5%.

16. (Currently amended) The cellulose ether of ~~any one of claims 10 to 14~~ Claim 10 wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ of the cellulose ether ii) is either from 2.2 to 2.6 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 % or the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is from 1.0 to 2.0 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 11.5%.

17. A method of controlling the curing time of a cellulose ether-comprising cementitious composition wherein

- i) a cationically-modified or a secondary or tertiary amino-modified cellulose ether or
- ii) a cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is either from 2.2 to 3.2 and the unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 %, or the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is less than 2.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 12%,

is incorporated into the cementitious composition.

18. A method of controlling the curing time of a cellulose ether-comprising cementitious composition wherein

- i) a cationically-modified or a secondary or tertiary amino-modified cellulose ether or
- ii) a cellulose ether comprising a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the hydroxyethoxyl substituent has been introduced into the cellulose material in two or more stages,

is incorporated into the cementitious composition.

19. (Canceled)

20. (New) The cementitious composition of Claim 1 wherein the cellulose ether has a viscosity of from 100 to 20,000 mPa's, measured as a 1-wt.% aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield viscometer as described in ASTM D-2364.

21. (New) The cementitious composition of Claim 2 wherein the cellulose ether has a viscosity of from 100 to 20,000 mPa's, measured as a 1-wt.% aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield viscometer as described in ASTM D-2364.

22. (New) The cementitious composition of Claim 2 wherein the cellulose ether has a viscosity of from 3000 to 7500 mPa's, measured as a 1-wt.% aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield viscometer as described in ASTM D-2364.

23. (New) The cementitious composition of Claim 2 wherein the cellulose ether has a viscosity of from 1 to 5000 mPa's, measured as a 2-wt.% aqueous solution at 25°C using a Brookfield viscometer as described in ASTM D-2364.

24. (New) The cementitious composition of Claim 2 wherein the cellulose ether i) is a cationically-modified or a secondary or tertiary amino-modified hydroxyethyl cellulose.

25. (New) The cellulose ether of Claim 12 wherein the cellulose ether comprises a hydroxyethoxyl substituent alone or in combination with one or more other substituents bound to oxygen, wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is up to 3.2 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5%.

26. (New) The cellulose ether of Claim 12 wherein the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ of the cellulose ether ii) is either from 2.2 to 2.6 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 8.5 % or the ethylene oxide molar substitution $MS_{\text{hydroxyethoxyl}}$ is from 1.0 to 2.0 and the percentage of unsubstituted anhydroglucose units is up to 11.5%.